

Memorandum

To : The Conservancy
The Advisory Committee

Date : September 26, 2005

From : 
Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Director

Subject: **Agenda Item 17: Consideration of resolution authorizing a term extension and augmentation of grant agreement SMM-0482 with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve, Temescal Gateway Park, Franklin Canyon Park, Mentryville, Towsley Canyon, Ramirez Canyon and any other parks under the jurisdiction of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Conservancy adopt the following resolution authorizing a term extension and augmentation of grant agreement SMM-0482 with the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority for interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve, Temescal Gateway Park, Franklin Canyon Park, Mentryville, Towsley Canyon, Ramirez Canyon and any other parks under the jurisdiction of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Legislative Authority: Section 33204.27 (a) of the Public Resources Code provides, in part, as follows:

The Conservancy may award grants to school districts or other local agencies for any of the purposes for which it may award grants to nonprofit organizations pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 33204.2

Section 5096.605 (c) of the Public Resources Code provides:

"Development includes, but is not limited to, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, preservation, protection, and interpretation."

Section 5096.605 (j) of the Public Resources Code provides:

"Preservation means identification, evaluation, recordation, documentation, interpretation, protection, rehabilitation, restoration, stabilization, development, and reconstruction, or any combination of those activities."

Section 5096.650 (b) of the Public Resource Code provides:

The sum of... to the conservancies in accordance with the particular provisions of the statute creating each conservancy for acquisition, development...of land and water resources; for grant..., and in accordance with the following schedule: (3) To the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy... \$40,000,000.

Background: This resolution would authorize an augmentation of \$564,401 of Proposition 40 funds to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) for the interpretation of land, air and water at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve, Temescal Gateway Park, Franklin Canyon Park, Mentryville, and Towsley Canyon, and add Ramirez Canyon Park and all other parks under the jurisdiction of the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to sites where interpretive services may take place, and extend the term agreement of Grant SMM-0482 to June 30, 2006.

The MRCA has provided interpretive services for parks under the jurisdiction of the Conservancy for over 16 years and has demonstrated an expertise and specific knowledge of that parkland. It therefore has been determined that it increases both efficiency and program continuity to have these programs carried out by the MRCA. This augmentation will enable the MRCA to continue to provide interpretive services through June of 2006. For the purposes of this grant, interpretation includes any exhibits, displays, kiosks, brochures, docent interpretive programs, ranger interpretive programs, and written materials on land, air, and water resources directly relating to a Conservancy project or parkland.

All programs target regional audiences from our city's most impacted urban areas. The attached grant agreement spells out the specific scope of services that will be provided, including:

1. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Temescal Gateway Park, including written materials, docent interpretive programs, and ranger interpretive programs. These programs will directly relate to the Park's natural history and water resources.
2. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Upper Las Virgenes Canyon Open Space Preserve. This program directly relates to the Park's rich natural resources. Programming will focus on interpretation of the site's endangered species, ecology, importance in the watershed, conservation, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystem, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.

3. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Mentryville. This program directly relates to the Park's unique geology and natural resources. Interpretation will focus on endangered species, ecology, watersheds, conservation, geology, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.

4. Interpretation of land, air and water resources at Towsley Canyon. This program directly relates to the Park's rich natural resources. Interpretation will focus on endangered species, ecology, watersheds, conservation, geology, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.

5. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Franklin Canyon Park. This program directly relates to the Park's water resources, including the Franklin Canyon Reservoir and the Heavenly Pond. Additionally, programs focus on natural resource conservation and the dynamics of urban/wildland interfaces.

6. Interpretation of land, air, and water resources at Ramirez Canyon Park. This program directly relates to the Park's unique natural resources. Interpretation will focus on endangered species, ecology, watersheds, conservation, geology, biodiversity, Mediterranean ecosystems, wildlife corridors, and fire ecology.

7. Interpretation of land, air and water resources on parkland owned by the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy focusing on the relevant natural resources found at those specific sites.

Timeline and progress reports:

This scope of work for the augmentation will take place in Fiscal Year 05-06. The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority shall provide the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy with detailed quarterly updates that will include: grant milestones, grant compliance, percentage of work completed as of the date of the quarterly report (the number of programs delivered, materials developed, attendance rates, and survey and evaluation responses), and any current issues that affect project compliance with the grant's work program and funding.

Budget

Planning:

Includes planning and development of performance standards and objectives for interpretive materials and programs, evaluation of interpretive materials and programs directly relating

to parks under SMMC jurisdiction as specified in the scope of work.

Deputy Executive Officer, Interpretation \$68.91 @1000 hours	68,910	
Interpretive Project Specialists \$45 @1000 hours	45,000	
		\$113,910

Direct Project Management:

Includes all direct management related to and required for the performance of the project.

Deputy Executive Officer, Interpretation \$68.91 @1000 hours	68,691	
Interpretive Project Specialist \$45 @1000hours	45,000	
		\$113,691

Program Delivery:

Includes interpretation of land, air, and water resources of specific parks under SMMC jurisdiction, as specified in the scope of work

Senior Naturalists, \$40 @ 3040 hours	\$121,600	
Naturalists \$30 @ 3330 hours	\$ 99,900	
Rangers \$45 @ 1500	\$ 67,500	
		\$289,000

Brochures, Exhibits, and Displays:

Includes expenses for production of brochures, printing, exhibits and other written materials interpreting land, air, and water resources of specific parks under SMMC jurisdiction as specified in the scope of work

Professional specialist \$40 @250	\$10,000	
Interpretive Project Specialist \$45 @500hours	\$22,500	
Printing	\$10,000	
		\$42,500

Direct Expenditures:

Including postage, delivery charges, transportation	\$ 5,300	
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Total: \$564,401